

Message Text

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45

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SY-10 IO-13 OIC-04 CPR-02 USSS-00

NEA-10 PRS-01 AID-20 SPC-03 DRC-01 RSC-01 /091 W

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R 251200Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 175

INFO USUN NEW YORK 562

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4395

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MO

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY
IN NEW YORK

1. FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA, WHO LEAVES FOR US SEPT 25,
TELLS ME YOU HAVE AGREED TO RECEIVE HIM IN NEW YORK.
I BELIEVE HE MAY BRING UP FOLLOWING:

A. KING'S INVITATION TO PRESIDENT TO COME TO MOROCCO,
EVEN IF ONLY FOR A STOPOVER, IF PRESIDENT TRAVELS TO EUROPE.

B. KING'S INTEREST IN MEETING WITH YOU SHOULD YOU FIND IT
POSSIBLE TO COME TO MOROCCO.

C. MOROCCO'S HOPE THAT US WILL PROVIDE IMPORTANT ASSISTANCE
FOR NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN.

D. MOROCCO'S HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE NEW US INITIATIVE RE
MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM AND ITS BELIEF THAT HOPEFUL ATMOSPHERE
PREVAILS. MOROCCO PREPARED BE HELPFUL.

E. EXPLNATION OF MOROCCO'S BELIEF THAT IT CAN
PLAY LEADING ROLE IN CREATION OF GROUPING OF "MODERATE"
AFRICAN AND ME STATES AS COUNTER TO "RADICALS" WHO DOMINATED
ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. (THIS IS REACTION TO
ISOLATION IN WHICH MOROCCO FOUND ITSELF AT ALGIERS.)

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F. MOROCCO'S CONTINUING GENERAL INTEREST IN RECEIVING US POLITICAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT AND CONTINUING READINESS COLLABORATE WITH US TO ADVANCE MUTUALLY SHARED PRINCIPLES AND GOALS. (MOROCCANS HAVE IN PAST SHOWN THEY CONSIDER US NOT AS INTERESTED IN MOROCCAN REGIME AS IT SHOULD BE.)

G. IN ADDITION IF POSSIBLE, BUT NOT LIKELY, THAT BENHIMA MAY REITERATE MOROCCAN DESIRE RECEIVE COMPENSATION WHICH COULD SERVE AS JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION US MILITARY PRESENCE HERE.

2. BENHIMA, WHO SPEAKS PASSABLE ENGLISH, TENDS BE ELLIPTICAL IN APPROACH; HE IS, HOWEVER, CLEVER, STRONG ON SUBSTANCE, DOES HIS HOMEWORK WELL, AND HAS THE KING'S EAR. AS HE IS VAIN AND QUITE SENSITIVE, ANY SPECIAL ATTENTION YOU CAN GIVE HIM WILL BE USEFUL HERE.
ROCKWELL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973RABAT04395
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS ROCKWELL
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730912/aaaaaainc.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY IN NEW YORK
TAGS: PFOR, MO, US, UNGA, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (BENHIMA, AHMED TAIBA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005